

DOC Re-entry team hosts leaders from Ohio's program



The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC) has implemented an extensive and successful transition philosophy that has reformed their entire department. MDOC staff, community services professionals and other stakeholders recently participated in a presentation of that plan by the Ohio Office of Policy and Offender Re-entry at the DeMarse Training Academy in Lansing to participants of the Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative (MPRI).

MDOC staff and community services professionals joined the Ohio delegation for a presentation on the Ohio re-entry program.

Dr. Stafford returns	3
Marutiak LETR director	4
Polar plunge	5
Promotions	6
FOA Region III raises money ..	8

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According to Dr. Edward Rhine, Deputy Director of the ODRC re-entry office, the core of Ohio's approach is the notion that re-entry is a philosophy, not a program. "Re-entry calls for a broad systems approach to managing offenders returning to the community. It is a commitment that starts with the question: *What is needed to prepare this offender for successful re-entry?*" This was the theme of the delegation's presentation to the 140 MPRI participants.

The Ohio blueprint covered planning, programming and release preparation as well as a section called lessons learned. MDOC staff gained tremendous insight

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DOC Re-entry team hosts leaders

continued from page 1

into the potential pitfalls and situations to avoid by calling on the experience of the Ohio team.

While the Ohio corrections system is slightly smaller than Michigan with 32 prisons and 44,032 prisoners, the challenges associated with re-entry and their solutions remain vastly similar.

“Having the Ohio delegation here to speak to us about their experiences is invaluable,” said MDOC Policy and Strategic Planning Administration Deputy Director Dennis Schrantz. “We can learn from their successes as well as their mistakes.”

The MDOC re-entry initiative is currently rolling out its first pilot sites. While several communities had initiated some of the MPRI model elements, the entire seven-point MPRI model is now underway in some locations.

“The MPRI will help to reduce crime by better preparing the prisoner for success after release,” continued Deputy Director Schrantz. “We’re working with offenders while they are incarcerated—preparing them for release, and we’re working with Field Operations Administration staff and community support services to provide a seamless transition back to the community.”

The Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center is taking steps to implement Phase One of the MPRI, the *Getting Ready or Institutional Phase*, which takes place during incarceration. It revolves around the Transition Accountability Plan (TAP) which focuses on identifying the offenders’ strengths, needs and risks. A plan of action for each individual offender will be developed and modified throughout incarceration. Release preparation and release decision-making are emphasized throughout the process.

In addition, development efforts are underway with corporations and business to encourage additional community support and increased employment opportunities.

“We’re addressing many concerns including transitional housing, health issues, substance abuse and employment. All of these elements are imperative for a successful transition,” said Schrantz. “We’re partnering with the Department of Community Health, Department of Labor and Economic Growth and the Family Independence agency for additional support.”

DOC Director Patricia L. Caruso has followed Ohio's success with prison re-entry for some time.

“We have much to learn from our friends in Ohio, and we greatly appreciate that they would take the time to share their expertise,” said Director Caruso. “[ODRC] Director Wilkenson and I have discussed at length the re-entry work going on in Ohio and Michigan, and we recognize that a solid partnership can only enhance both states’ initiatives.” *BYJ*

Training meeting prepares participants



Greg Roberts

Greg Roberts, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's Director of Community and Faith-based Initiatives, welcomed participants at the Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative pilot and demonstration sites training meeting held December 9 at the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing.

“We must create an avenue of opportunity,” said Roberts. “We are making a difference in the lives of so many, and in doing that, we are making a difference in the lives of those in our communities and our state.”

Also addressing the session was Teresa Bingman, Deputy Legal Counsel for Governor Granholm. She offered thanks from the Governor to the group for stepping up and doing a much-needed job. *BYJ*



From left: Twyla Snow, DOC admin. assist.; Teresa Bingman and James Yarborough, DOC special projects coordinator

Riverside dentist returns from Kosovo

Dr. Monica Stafford, a dentist at Riverside Correctional Facility, returned November 1 from her deployment to Kosovo as a Lt. Colonel with the U.S. Army Reserves where she had been stationed since July 11, 2004.

“Most days in Kosovo were quite routine and not very exciting,” said Dr. Stafford. “It was hard on my family to have me gone, but I was lucky. I was able to e-mail them and call them by phone daily. There was not any serious fighting going on where we were assigned, but whenever we traveled outside the compound we had to take a loaded weapon with us.”

Dr. Stafford was not deployed with the rest of her unit but said that she met many interesting people.

“The hospital where the dental clinic was located was quite nice. It was a large clinic, well equipped, and the professional staff was a really good group—the youngest was 33 and the oldest was a 65-year-old doctor.”

Most of Dr. Stafford’s duties consisted of performing dental procedures for U.S. soldiers and some European soldiers.

About twice a month, Dr. Stafford and other staff would go out to the villages and set up a temporary dental clinic to do extractions. Most of the time they were able to set up their clinic in a building.

“In one case, we had to set up in a mud parking lot with pigs and chickens running around—it was not fun,” said Dr. Stafford.

Some of her experiences in Kosovo were exciting.

“Twice we were able to take a Black Hawk helicopter to the German medical facility. This was quite an experience and quite a prestigious thing to do, as most people had to drive,” said Dr. Stafford.

Dr. Stafford is now considered non-deployable for 18 months but expects to be deployed again several times over the next five years.

Dr. Stafford was also featured on the Multi-National Brigade East Web site in the Photo of the Day for September 21. In the photo she is performing an extraction on a young village boy.

“The best thing about being over there was coming home,” said Dr. Stafford. “Thank you to all the Riverside staff for such a warm welcome back.” *F.Y.I.*



Dr. Stafford

Michigan National Guard Family Fund

If you are looking for a way to support our deployed soldiers, consider a donation to the Michigan National Guard Family Fund. One hundred percent of this not-for-profit fund goes to financially struggling families of deployed Michigan National Guard members. Send your check or money order to Michigan National Guard Family Fund, 2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing MI 48913. For more information, call 517-702-5116/5117.

Marutiak named LETR director



Michael Marutiak

Michael J. Marutiak was named director of the Michigan Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) by the LETR Executive Committee. Marutiak held the position of co-director for two years prior to his election as director. He has also served on the torch run's Executive Committee since the early 1990s.

Marutiak is the departmental manager for the Special Alternative Incarceration program and has been with corrections for 15 years. His involvement with the Special Olympics began about 20 years ago. He attributes his dedication to the program to his witnessing the joy and personal development that Special Olympics has brought to his sister Teresa, who competed in Special Olympics for several years. A highlight of her career includes the 1997 Unified Sports Softball Game in Mt. Pleasant where Ernie Harwell, Detroit Tigers radio personality, was the announcer and Teresa got a base hit. While Teresa is no longer competing, she still proudly displays her various ribbons and medals she has earned throughout her career with

Special Olympics.

Marutiak has worked with the Torch Run for more than 15 years and was key in joining the Department of Corrections with the Torch Run group. He also served as the Final Leg representative to the World Games in 1996. Because of his dedication, Marutiak was asked to speak at the upcoming International Torch Run Conference about the correctional system's involvement in Michigan.

As the new director, Marutiak's vision and goals for the year 2005 and the years ahead include an emphasis on recruiting new law enforcement agencies not only with Torch Run events, but with Special Olympics Michigan events as well. He is also interested in building the sponsor base and strengthening the working relationships among the involved law enforcement agencies.

"Our continued service to the athletes in Michigan and the future growth of the Torch Run itself are highly dependent on our continued unity as a law enforcement group with a single mission," said Marutiak. *3.11.2*

Deerfield adopts family for the holidays



The Deerfield Correctional Facility and Employee Club sponsored a local family (a father and his four children ages 11, 9, 6 and 3) for the holidays.

Each family member received clothing and several toys. Among the items donated were games, books, dolls, boots and socks. In addition, canned goods and cooking staples were provided to the family.

Linda Gibbons, Meashell Lawson and Sharon Pung coordinated the annual project which netted about \$325 in donated items for the family. *3.11.2*

From left: Linda Gibbons, General Office Assistant; Anita Talcott, Financial Analyst; Jan Howell, Secretary; Meashell Lawson, Records Technician and Sharon Pung, Record Office Supervisor.

Still time to join in this year's polar plunge



Last year's plungers

The sixth annual Polar Bear Plunge fund raiser for the Law Enforcement Torch Run is scheduled to make a splash in five Michigan locations this year. The polar plunge event is open to anyone willing to “bear” the elements for a good cause. The object is simple, raise money then plunge into the icy Michigan waters.

This year’s events host not only a plunge, but after parties including music, warm food and a variety of beverages. The most creative costume at each event wins the coveted Traveling Golden Plunger Award. Additional prizes are being planned as well.

This is the second year that the Saginaw Correctional Facility participants have hosted the Saginaw plunge. Damon’s Grill and Mitchell Motorcoach, LTD. are co-sponsoring the event. All Saginaw location participants receive free admission to the Post Plunge Party, catered by Damon’s. Contact Bernadette Stone at 989-695-9880 x1304 for questions about the Saginaw plunge.

- **Saginaw Event:** February 12, 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration deadline is February 4. Location is the Four Points Sheraton & Damon’s Grill
- **Muskegon Event:** February 19, 11:00 a.m. Pre-registration deadline is February 11. Location is Camp Pendalouan in Montague
- **Belleville Event:** February 26, 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration deadline is February 18. Location is Van Buren Township Senior Hall in Belleville
- **Lansing and Marquette** locations and dates are still being determined

Registration forms and details are available at www.somi.org/polarplunge.

To Participate in a Plunge:

1. Solicit contributions from family, friends, etc. Entry fee is a \$50 donation to Special Olympics Michigan.
2. Pre-register by faxing your form to 989-774-3034. Forms are available at www.somi.org/polarplunge.
3. Bring your registration form and collected pledges to the event.

3/1/05

Promotions through December 19, 2004

Nov. 21, 2004	HOWELL, STEFANIE L CURTIS-BRADT, CHRIS. LEBARRE, JODY L MACKIE, THOMAS P MANSFIELD, DONALD P ALEXANDER, CHAR. JACKSON, WENDI M CLARK, MARY J	ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN-E DEPARTMENTAL MANAGER-3 REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER-2 RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2 RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2 SECRETARY-A STATE TRANSITIONAL PROFSNL-E REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER-4 ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 ASSISTANT RESIDENT UNIT SUPV-1 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-2 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-3 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-3 DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2 DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2 DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-1A GENERAL OFFICE ASSISTANT-E REGISTERED NURSE DIRECTOR-3 REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER-4 RESIDENT UNIT MANAGER-2 SECRETARY-A	BELLAMY CREEK CENTRAL OFFICE IONIA MAXIMUM CHIPPEWA FACILITY CHIPPEWA FACILITY CENTRAL OFFICE FOA REGION II MACOMB FACILITY BROOKS FACILITY BROOKS FACILITY MUSKEGON FACILITY CHIPPEWA FACILITY CARSON CITY CARSON CITY KINROSS/HIAWATHA MID-MICHIGAN CENTRAL OFFICE CENTRAL OFFICE CENTRAL OFFICE CENTRAL OFFICE CENTRAL OFFICE CHIPPEWA FACILITY EGELER FACILITY BARAGA FACILITY BROOKS FACTY/
Dec. 5, 2004	FAGER, JOHN M FLOWERS, ALISA L STRANGE Y, ARNICE Y BURKE, JOHN A GALLAGHER, BRETT A HUFNAGEL, JOSEPH A HARWOOD, JERRY S WILSON, DON E JUDGE, DIANA J THELEN, KIMBERLY I TREVINO, CONNIE M DROSTE, AMY M MARTIN, ALLYSON K HORTON, MICHELLE D SHARPLEY, JAYNAL MENI, KATHLEEN A JEFFERY, KATHY E	CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1 CORRECTIONS SHIFT SUPV-1 TRANSPORTATION OFFICER-E DEPARTMENTAL SPECIALIST-2 DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISOR-3 DEPT TECHNICIAN-E DEPT TRAINEE ANALYST-E MAINTENANCE MECHANIC-A	ALGER MAX ALGER MAX ALGER MAX FOA REGION I HANDLON SCOTT FACILITY BELLAMY CREEK CENTRAL OFFICE SCOTT FACILITY
Dec. 19, 2004	ARKENS, MICHAEL S MACDONALD, DONALD A TASKILA, KEVIN G WOLFORD, TIMOTHY CHASE, CANDICE M FINCH, KAREN E BISHOP, CONNIE L THELEN, GWEN LENART, STEPHEN		

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Quick-thinking staff saves life

The quick-thinking and coordinated action taken by staff at the Newberry Correctional Facility may have saved the life of a prisoner who had collapsed to the floor as he was walking in his housing unit. On December 20, RUO Preston Mersnick heard a loud “thump” and turned to see the prisoner lying on the floor by the bathroom. The commotion was also noticed by ARUS Andy Swanson, who immediately radioed for assistance. While several staff responded to the scene, C/O Chris Dembny grabbed the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) machine from the Control Center and headed to the unit.

While Lt. Kurt Badder oversaw the situation, RUOs Mersnick and Steve Carley readied their CPR equipment and monitored the prisoner, who was struggling for breath. They also prepared the prisoner for possible application of the AED. The prisoner then stopped breathing and had no pulse. The two RUOs began CPR, and had barely finished one cycle when the AED arrived and was hooked up. It advised to shock, which C/O Dembny did.

The prisoner immediately began breathing with difficulty. RN Donna Selling and other staff then monitored the prisoner until a local ambulance arrived, thirteen minutes after the prisoner went down. The prisoner was taken to the local hospital, where he was treated. He is recovering at this time.

“Once again, the excellent training and unsurpassed dedication displayed by MDOC staff made the difference between life and death,” said Warden Barry Davis. *F.Y.I.*

Chippewa and Straits adopt families



Employees of the Chippewa and Straits correctional facilities participated in the Holiday Spirit Project. Two deserving families, whose names were provided by the Family Independence Agency, were adopted by facility staff for the 2004 Christmas season.

Numerous gifts and food baskets were purchased with the \$965 collected by staff. Gifts were wrapped by a group of volunteers and delivered on December 16 by Barb Storey, who headed the project.

“Both families were overwhelmed and extremely appreciative of the generosity,” said Storey. *F.Y.I.*

From left: Phyllis Payment, Deputy Warden's Secretary; Cheryn Sanford, Business Office Secretary; Barb Storey, Litigation Coordinator and Karen Albone, Personnel Aide

FOA Region III donates



Since May 2004 the FOA Region III Office has raised more than \$500 by taking part in casual Fridays.

Their donations have gone to Hospice of Michigan, American Heart Association, MDA, Mel Trotter Ministries, Magic Foundation, Alzheimer's Association, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and God's Kitchen.

In addition to the December 2004 monetary donations, contributions of diapers, woman's clothing, food and towels were collected and donated to the YWCA Women's Domestic Crisis Center. [FYI](#).

Front row from left: Pat Markiewicz, accounting assist.; Barb Lamancusa, personnel management assist.; Loree Read, accounting tech. and Sue Beaver, ARU secretary. Back row from left: Amy Beckmann, personnel management tech.; Sandy Dyke, accounting assist; Don Hollerback, financial manager and Mary Kampf, executive assistant.

Chippewa staff saves co-worker



From left. Lt. Steve Therrian and Sgt. Edwin O'Dell

Quick action and good training helped avert a potential fatality of a MDOC staff member. A group of corrections employees were eating at a local restaurant when Lt. Steve Therrian of Chippewa Correctional Facility began choking and was in obvious respiratory distress. Sgt. Edwin O'Dell of neighboring Straits Correctional Facility was present and administered the Heimlich maneuver restoring Lt. Therrian's normal breathing.

Lt. Therrian credited the MDOC's emergency training for the quick and appropriate response on the part of Sgt. O'Dell.

"As a paramedic working for 28 years in EMS I feel that this response was excellent and should be acknowledged. Our staff in corrections are some of the best trained in the area and we need to let everyone know that they are," said Lt. Therrian. [FYI](#).